PURPOSE:
To allow for urinary drainage externally while maintaining skin integrity and prevention of urinary tract infection.

CONSIDERATIONS:
1. External catheters (also known as condom or Texas catheters, urinary sheath) may be applied and changed as deemed necessary by the nurse or physician.
2. External catheters are easy to apply, reduce risk of infection by not providing direct access to urinary tract and promote skin integrity by keeping the area dry and clean.
3. A catheter too tightly applied or incorrectly sized may impair circulation. It is important to have the correct size. Each manufacturer provides a sizing and measurement guide.
4. Wear time for an external catheter varies from 24 to 72 hours, depending on the product design, patient tolerance and manufacturer's specifications.
5. Never use adhesive tape (other than the tapes provided by the manufacture) to secure a condom/external catheter since circulation to the penis can be cut off, even if the urine flow is not impaired.

EQUIPMENT:
- Condom/External catheter
- Drainage bag and tubing
- Extension catheter (optional)
- Velcro or elastic sheath holder (optional, depends on type of catheter)
- Scissors
- Hypoallergenic tape
- Non-sterile gloves
- Soap, water and basin
- Washcloth/towel
- Skin barrier (optional)

PROCEDURE:
1. Adhere to Standard Precautions.
2. Explain procedure to patient.
3. Assist patient to a supine position. Place towel or waterproof pad underneath buttocks. [Note: Patient may learn to do this himself so a comfortable sitting or standing position may be necessary.]
4. Cleanse penis using mild soap (avoid soaps with moisturizes as may affect adhesion of device) and water, dry. If patient is not circumcised, retract the foreskin and cleanse meatus. Rinse and dry. It is imperative that the foreskin is returned into position and not left retracted, as this will impair circulation to penis. Drape the patient for privacy.
5. Apply skin barrier wipe to the penis, if used, and allow to air dry. Be sure that all hair has been clipped or shaved from the area as this will interfere with adherence.
6. As the external catheter is unrolled, gently squeeze the sheath all around the penis to seal adhesive to the skin. This will secure the catheter in place. [Note: A few air bubbles may remain. This is normal.]
7. Wear time for an external catheter varies from 24 to 72 hours, depending on the product design, patient tolerance and manufacturer's specifications.
8. Connect the drainage system to the external catheter. Be careful that it is connect tightly. An extension tubing attached to a leg or drainage bag is an option. Secure with leg strap as appropriate.
9. Assess color of penis to insure good circulation.
10. Be sure that the system is connected so there is no "tugging" as this will decrease wear time by causing leaking.
11. Discard soiled supplies in appropriate containers.

AFTER CARE:
1. Document in patient's record:
   a. Procedure and observations.
   b. Patient's response to procedure.
   c. Instructions given to patient/caregiver.
2. Instruct caregiver to check for patency, edema, swelling and circulation. Ensure the catheter is intact and functioning properly.